



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/916,140	08/21/97	SCOTT	SOV-003.04

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HM12/0606

EXAMINER
SCHNIZER, R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1632	14

DATE MAILED: 06/06/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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8/916,140	8/21/97	SCOTT	SUV-003.04

EXAMINER

Richard Schnizer

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1632	14

DATE MAILED:

Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application.

DETAILED ACTION

The previous Office Action, Paper No. 13, mailed 5/19/2000, is hereby vacated in favor of the following Office Action.

The reply filed on 3/13/2000 is not fully responsive to the prior Office action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): the amendment to claim 49, and addition of new claims 50-60, resulted in the introduction of a new, distinct invention not previously claimed. The original invention was a method of treatment, whereas the amended claims are drawn to methods of screening for agents which modulate *patched*-dependent signal transduction. It is noted that step (e) of claim 49 recites administration of a test agent to an animal. However this appears to be only a screening step and not a method of treatment, because the preamble and the other method steps are drawn to a method of screening. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is

longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner(s) should be directed to Richard Schnizer, whose telephone number is 703-306-5441. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 7:30 to 4:00 (Eastern time).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jasmine Chambers, can be reached at 703-308-2035. The FAX phone number for art unit 1632 is 703-308-0294.

Inquiries of a general nature or relating to the status of the application should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0196.

Richard Schnizer, Ph. D.



BRUCE R. CAMPELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1800